

CONFIDENTIAL.]

[No. 8 of 1888.]

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 25th February 1888.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	
BENGALI.					
Monthly.					
1	"Ahammadi"	Tangail, Mymensingh..	....	13th February 1888.
2	"Kasipore Nibasi"	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	....	
Fortnightly.					
3	"Ave Maria"	Calcutta	....	
4	"Gaura Duta"	Maldah	....	
5	"Grambasi"	Uluberia	....	
6	"Purva Bangabasi"	Noakhally	....	
7	"Purva Darpan"	Chittagong	700		
8	"Uttara Banga Hitaishi"	Mahiganj, Rangpore...	....	
Weekly.					
9	"Arya Darpan"	Calcutta	102	17th ditto.	
10	"Bangabasi"	Ditto	20,000	18th ditto.	
11	"Burdwan Sanjivani"	Burdwan	302	14th ditto.	
12	"Charuvarti"	Sherpore, Mymensingh	500	6th and 13th February 1888.	
13	"Chattal Gazette"	Chittagong	....	7th February 1888.
14	"Dacca Prakash"	Dacca	450	19th ditto.	
15	"Dhumaketa"	Chandernagore	....	17th ditto.
16	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	825		
17	"Garib and Mahavidya"	Dacca	....	15th ditto.
18	"Hindu Ranjika"	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	200		
19	"Jagatbasi"	Calcutta	....	16th ditto.
20	"Murahidabad Patrika"	Berhampore	508	17th ditto.	
21	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi"	Ditto	....	
22	"Navavibhakar Sadharani"	Calcutta	1,000	20th ditto.	
23	"Praja Bandhu"	Chandernagore	995	17th ditto.	

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI—concluded.				
Weekly—concluded.				
34	"Pratikāś"	Berhampore	600	17th February 1888.
35	"Bungpore Dik Prakāśh"	Kakiniā, Bungpore	205	
36	"Sahachar"	Calcutta	500	15th ditto.
37	"Samaya"	Ditto	2,350	17th ditto.
38	"Sanjivani"	Ditto	4,000	18th ditto.
39	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong	800	10th ditto.
40	"Sarāswat Patra"	Dacca	400	
41	"Som Prakāśh"	Calcutta	1,000	20th ditto.
42	"Srimanta Sandagār"	Ditto	.....	11th ditto.
43	"Sulabha Samāchār and Kusadaha"	Ditto	3,000	17th ditto.
44	"Surabhi and Patākā"	Ditto	700	16th ditto.
Daily.				
45	"Dainik and Samachār Chandrikā"	Calcutta	7,000	19th to 22nd February 1888.
46	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Ditto	200	16th, 18th & 20th to 23rd Feb. 1888.
47	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	
48	"Banga Vidyā Prakāśhikā"	Ditto	500	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
Weekly.				
49	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca	.....	20th February 1888.
HINDI.				
Monthly.				
50	"Kshatriya Pratikā"	Patna	.....
Weekly.				
51	"Aryāvarta"	Calcutta	.....	18th ditto.
52	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore	.....
53	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,500	16th ditto.
54	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto	500	13th ditto.
55	"Uchit Baktā"	Ditto	4,500	
56	"Hindi Samāchār"	Bhagulpore	1,000	
PERSIAN.				
Weekly.				
57	"Jām-Jahān-numā"	Calcutta	250	17th ditto.
URDU.				
Weekly.				
58	"Aftal Alum Arrah"	Arrah	.....
59	"Anis"	Patna	.....	6th and 13th February 1888.
60	"Gauhur"	Calcutta	196	20th February 1888.
61	"Sharaf-ul Akbar"	Behar	150	
62	"Al Punch"	Bankipore	.....
Bi-weekly.				
63	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta	340	14th and 18th February 1888.
Daily.				
64	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	212	16th to 22nd ditto.
URIYA.				
Monthly.				
65	"Taraka and Subhavartā"	Cuttack	.....
66	"Pradīp"	Ditto	.....
67	"Samyabadi"	Ditto	.....
Weekly.				
68	"Utkal Dīpikā"	Cuttack	200	
69	"Balasore Samvad Vāhikā"	Balasore	205	
70	"Sanskāraka"	Cuttack	200	
71	"Navasamvād"	Ditto	.....
72	"Uriya"	Balasore	.....
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.				
BENGALI.				
Fortnightly.				
73	"Silchar"	Silchar	.....	13th February 1888.
Weekly.				
74	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet	450	13th ditto.

Name of the person	Rank	Service	Remarks
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I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

The *Samaya*, of the 17th February, approves of the *Young Bengal* newspaper's article headed "The cloud in the North and Sikkim affairs," and hopes that it will have the effect of removing all misconception existing in the minds of Government officers in regard to Sikkim affairs.

SAMAYA,
Feb. 17th, 1898.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

2. A correspondent of the *Cháruvartá*, of the 6th and 13th February, says that, since the transfer of the Munsif's Court from Ghoshgaon in Mymensingh, theft, dacoity and other crimes have increased in that place. Reports of theft are heard every week. The police are doing their best to check crime, but to no purpose.

CHÁRUVARTÁ,
Feb. 6th & 13th, 1898.

3. A correspondent of the *Murshidabad Pratinidhi*, of the 17th February, complains of the high-handed proceedings of the constables attached to the

MURSHIDABAD
PRATINIDHI,
Feb. 17th, 1898.

The Berhampore police. A large crowd assembled to witness the race recently held at Berhampore. Some of the spectators leaned on the fences at the two extremities of the race ground, in order to have a good view of the race. Seeing this, the police constables singled out some school-boys belonging to respectable families for assault, and used very foul language towards them. On the last day of the races, a similar assault was committed on a student of the local college. Some gentlemen remonstrated against such conduct and informed the Police Sub-Inspector of the matter, who rebuked the constable; but the constable did not mind this, but snatching a *lathi* from a by-stander flourished it furiously at the student and abused him. The Sub-Inspector with great difficulty succeeded in sending away the constable, who went to the District Superintendent of Police and asked for an order for the arrest of the student, which is said to have been verbally given. But the boy had in the meantime left the place, and so the matter ended.

It is very strange that the constable went on insulting the sons of respectable men in defiance of the order of the Sub-Inspector of Police, and with the consent of the District Superintendent of Police.

4. A correspondent of the *Samaya*, of the 17th February, says that several petty thefts have recently been committed at Behala in the 24-Pergunnahs. The local police is showing no zeal or activity in tracing the thieves. Its officers have discontinued the practice of going on rounds, and so dacoities may now be committed with impunity at 8 o'clock in the evening. The number of budmashes in Behala and the surrounding villages has greatly increased, and a gentleman of Behala, who was returning home at about half-past one o'clock at night, was recently set upon by a band of these budmashes, and it was with much difficulty that he was able to escape unhurt.

SAMAYA,
Feb. 17th, 1898.

Thefts and budmashes at Behala in the 24-Pergunnahs.

5. A correspondent of the same paper praises the detective abilities of Baboo Bamacharan Bnoomik, Darogah of the Santipore Police.

SAMAYA.

Baboo Bamachurn Bhoomic, Darogah of the Santipore Police.

pore Police.

PRAGATI,
Feb. 17th, 1898.

6. The *Pragati Bandha*, of the 17th February, draws the attention of Government to the following case of oppression alleged to have been committed by Mr. Clarke, District Superintendent of Police, Dacca, on Baboo Parvatinath, Sub-Inspector of the Manohardi thana :—

A case of police oppression.
At the beginning of last year the Deputy Inspector-General of Police made an order transferring Parvati Baboo from the Manohardi thana; but Mr. Clarke, instead of transferring him, degraded him to the post of a head-constable for ten months. Parvati Baboo appealed to the Commissioner, who reversed Mr. Clarke's order. He was then given a Police Sub-Inspectorship. About this time his health having failed him, he asked for leave of absence for one year. This was denied him by Mr. Clarke. He then applied for leave to the Magistrate through Mr. Clarke; but Mr. Clarke having suppressed the application, he was compelled to write to the Magistrate direct. The Civil Surgeon of Dacca, after examination, recommended him for leave for two-and-a-half months. Mr. Clarke at first declined to give him the leave recommended, but was at last prevailed upon by his entreaties to grant him leave. But Mr. Clarke asked him at the same time to go to the Dacca Reserve Hospital. This he did, but not finding the hospital quite comfortable, he has now come to Calcutta and is still residing there. It is not likely that he will recover his health before his leave expires; and as it is almost certain that no extension of leave will be granted to him, he will have to join his duties in a weak state of health, and may die of hard work and for want of good treatment.

BANGALORE,
Feb. 18th, 1898.

7. The *Bangabasi*, of the 18th February, says that a woman residing in Calcutta was cheated out of Rs. 500. The matter was reported to the police. The police refused to take the matter up, as the woman failed to furnish a full description of the man who was stated to have cheated her, and advised her to apply to the Presidency Magistrate for the issue of a warrant for his arrest. The poor woman applied to the Magistrate for a warrant, but the Magistrate did not grant her prayer, saying that no warrant could issue until the name of the cheat was given. The poor woman could not give the name of the cheat. The Magistrate therefore disallowed her prayer. It is a pity that no attempt was made to find the offender out and bring him to justice, although a fact of cheating was reported to the Magistrate and the police.

BANGALORE.

8. The same paper takes the following case from the *Statesman* newspaper :—"Two murders are reported to have been committed last week in Bagnan, a village in the Ulubaria sub-division, zillah Hooghly. It is said that a Cabuli pedlar sold some goods to two brothers who are blacksmiths by profession. The Cabuli demanded payment, when an altercation ensued, and the Cabuli stabbed the younger brother in the abdomen resulting in instantaneous death. The elder brother, on pretence of making payment of his claim, brought a khanra (a sharp sacrificial weapon) from inside his house and struck the murderer with it, killing him on the spot."

Considering how these Cabuli pedlars oppress timid, ignorant, and rustic people in the mofussil, this may not be a mere story. Government ought to keep an eye upon these Cabuli pedlars in the mofussil.

SANJIVANI,
Feb. 18th, 1898.

9. The *Sanjivani*, of the 18th February, makes the following remarks on what is stated to be a confidential Police Circular, which is quoted below :—

A confidential Police Circular.
"Indians have up to this date been sleeping without any suspicion of any evil. But a fearful policy has now been adopted. The civilised British Government is now about to adopt a policy which is followed only by the police in Russia. Already police oppression in India is enough to

make people restless, and the Circular now proposes to arm that police with powers far more dangerous than what it at present possesses. The whole country should unite for the purpose of averting the impending evil." The following is the circular referred to :—

BENGAL POLICE.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Circular No. 5.

From J. C. VEASEY, Esq.,

Inspector-General of Police, L.P.,

To ALL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS OF POLICE

(THROUGH MAGISTRATES AND DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS.)

Dated Calcutta, the 30th December 1887.

A recent occurrence having shown a lamentable failure on the part of the police in the discharge of their duties as an Intelligence Department, and it being considered necessary that the scope of their responsibilities in this respect should be defined and extended, the following instructions are now issued :—

2. Sub-Inspectors in charge of stations will in future submit weekly to the District Superintendent a confidential report on such of the under-mentioned subjects as may be indicated by that officer, who is to vary them as he may think expedient with reference to the circumstances of the district concerned, and to his estimate of the capacity and trustworthiness of the subordinate in question. The information communicated is to be obtained from all available sources, the authority being mentioned whenever possible, and officers should be encouraged to report freely everything, however apparently trivial, that can have a possible political significance.

3. The District Superintendent and, in the case of Railway Police, the Assistant Inspector-General will extract from the reports all that he thinks worthy of notice, and submit the same in translation, combined with information gathered from other sources and explanatory notes, when necessary, in a weekly confidential diary through the Magistrate of the district, or, in the case of railways, to the Inspector-General direct.

4. This diary, which is to be in half-margin and in the District Superintendent's own handwriting, will be submitted every Saturday after working hours, will be treated as a confidential communication, and will not be sent in to the office. The cover containing it must be marked D. O., and the District Magistrate will be instructed to send it by the next post direct to this office, after perusal, marking the cover "Confidential, Special Branch," and not to return it to the District Superintendent.

5. The diary will be written up from day to day, and each paragraph will bear a weekly serial number. Officers receiving and forwarding diaries will enter in them any action they have taken or intend to take regarding any matter mentioned in them, and will sign such diaries and enter the date on which they forward them.

6. District Superintendents must understand that, for these orders to have the desired result, the cordial co-operation and interest of all officers in the chain of correspondence is absolutely necessary. They must not therefore content themselves with merely passing on reports as received, but must comment fully on them, adding all such information as they may be able to obtain from independent observation and enquiry, and Sub-Inspectors should invariably have it impressed upon them that the collection of

information for the weekly report is by no means the least important part of their duties, and that aptitude for this kind of work will recommend them for advancement.

7. List of subjects to be reported upon—

- (a) All political movements, sects, leaders, publication, and the like.
- (b) Information regarding religious sects, changes in doctrine and practice having a political significance; propaganda.
- (c) The arrival, sojourn, departure, and proceedings generally of suspicious characters and foreigners, special attention being paid to possible foreign emissaries, and to the movements of wandering gangs of criminals, the presence in any place of noted criminals, and any circumstance regarding their habits that may come to notice.
- (d) Rumours or published opinions disturbing the public peace; popular feelings and rumours.
- (e) Religious excitement; comments on laws and Government measures.
- (f) Illicit trade in arms and ammunition with special reference to any prosecution under the Arms Act for smuggling, and to any discoveries of concealed arms.
- (g) Affairs in independent or semi-independent Native States, and rumours regarding them.
- (h) Constitution, objects and proceedings of native societies, whether established for political or ostensibly for other subjects.
- (i) Political or mass meetings: their origin, organization, and result as to public feeling in the neighbourhood selected, with special reference to any tendency towards or probability of agrarian excitement.
- (j) Recruiting for the Indian Army or for Native States.

J. C. VEASEY,

Inspector-General of Police, L. P.

W. H. D'C.—Reg. No. 14116J—600—31-12-87.

SANJIVANI,
Feb. 18th, 1888.

10. The same paper says that there has been of late years an increase in the cases of dacoity all over India, and especially in Bengal, and mentions the following cases of dacoity in support of this statement :—

Increase of dacoity.

- (1) A dacoity at Gadudaha in the Serajgunge sub-division.
- (2) Ditto at Bhadrachhat in the same sub-division.
- (3) Ditto at Gandadaha and Bharmondali in the same sub-division.
- (4) Dacoities at Serajgunge, Rayapur, Ullapara, &c., in the district of Pubna.
- (5) A serious case of theft at Chandaikona within the jurisdiction of the Serepur thana.
- (6) A case of dacoity at Jhenidah, Kashta Magura.

When people come to the police to give information regarding dacoities committed within their knowledge, they are privately told by police officers not to describe dacoities as dacoities, but as simple cases of theft.

11. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 19th February, is sorry to learn that the police officers attached to the Magistrate's Court at Dacca behave rudely towards the litigants in that Court, and that persons offering bail are often subjected by them to great annoyance for the purpose of extorting money.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Feb. 19th, 1888.

12. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 20th February, says that the Confidential Police Circular threatens to introduce a reign of terror into this country.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Feb. 20th, 1888.

The writer has heard that Russia keeps herself informed through the medium of the police of whatever goes on within her empire; and can it be that the enlightened English Government has at last adopted the ways of Russia? Life is intolerable enough already under police oppression, and to arm that police with such fearful powers again! The whole country should unite with a view of averting the impending calamity.

13. The *Som Prakash*, of the 20th February, is surprised to hear of the prevalence of theft and dacoity in the villages of the Jhenidah sub-division of Jessore. In spite of the frequency of dacoities in broad daylight, the police, strange to say, have done nothing to prevent their recurrence. If the police is so utterly remiss in the performance of its duties, why is it maintained at so much cost to the country?

SOM PRAKASH,
Feb. 20th, 1888.

14. The *Samvad Prabhakar*, of the 23rd February, does not share the apprehensions of some of its contemporaries regarding the Confidential Police Circular. All Governments employ secret agents. Manu himself sanctions the employment of such agents. Russia, Germany, France, and other European countries employ a secret police.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
Feb. 23rd, 1888.

The guilty alone need fear inquiry, open or secret. The people of India, who are loyal and law-abiding, have nothing to fear from such a circular. The educated community are concerned only with clause (a) of paragraph 7 of the Circular, but it need not alarm them. Clause (b) of that paragraph formulates no new idea, and Hindus may regard it with supreme indifference. The writer would himself recommend the police to carry out the injunction contained in clause (c). Clause (d) is absolutely necessary in the interests of internal peace. Clause (e) appears to be unnecessary. Clause (f) is only a repetition of the provisions of the Arms Act. There is nothing new in the clauses which follow.

It is impolitic, however, to entrust uneducated Police Sub-Inspectors with such serious matter. Besides, these Sub-Inspectors often rely on the village chowkidars for information, and so the work of collecting information will ultimately devolve on the chowkidars, and Government will probably be misled by false reports. It is imperative therefore that Government should entrust this duty to thoroughly trustworthy and competent officers.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

15. The *Chattal Gazette*, of the 7th February, says that Dwarika Nath Dutta, an apprentice in one of the Chittagong Courts, was placed on trial for having demanded a bribe. He was convicted by Moulavi Serajul Huq, the local Deputy Magistrate, and sentenced to two months' imprisonment. The District Judge, to whom Dwari preferred an appeal, has reduced the sentence to three weeks' imprisonment. But considering that officers better employed than Dwarika Nath Dutta are in the habit of taking

CHATTAL GAZETTE,
Feb. 7th, 1888.

bribes, and that there are few in the whole public service who do not take bribes in some shape or other, the punishment inflicted upon Dwarika Nath, a very poor man, must be regarded as very severe.

SABACHAR,
Feb. 15th, 1888.

16. The *Sabachar*, of the 15th February, is not for prosecuting Baboo Sasisekhar Dutt criminally, but is decidedly of opinion that he should be removed from his post. He is the prime offender in the case.

SAMAYA,
Feb. 17th, 1888.

17. The *Samaya*, of the 17th February, thanks Mr. Reily, the Chief Presidency Magistrate, for the attempt he is making to put down the practice of *phuka*.

SAMAYA.

18. Referring to the decision recently passed in the notorious Tangail case, the same paper says that, considering the nature of the charges that have been proved against him, the Police Sub-Inspector, Ram Kumar Chakravarti, must be admitted to have been very leniently dealt with. Is a sentence of six months' imprisonment adequate for a man who attempts to enter by force into the zenana of a respectable Hindu lady, abuses its inmates in obscene language, and arrests innocent persons without a warrant? Again, how has the Deputy Magistrate, Baboo Sasisekhar, been dealt with? He ought to be dismissed from the Government service and visited with some sort of corporal punishment.

SAMAYA.

19. The same paper is glad to hear that the Lieutenant-Governor has degraded Baboo Akshaya Kumar Basu, the Deputy Magistrate, who figured in the recent Jamalpore affair.

BANGABASI,
Feb. 18th, 1888.

20. A correspondent of the *Bangabasi*, of the 18th February, says that some Mahomedans of Bali Dewangunge, a village in the Jehanabad sub-division of the Hooghly district, stole a cow belonging to a Hindu and slaughtered it. Baboo Purna Chandra Mittra, the Sub-divisional Officer, sentenced one of the accused persons to undergo two months' imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 30. This punishment is considered to be very light compared with the gravity of the offence. Such light punishments will exercise no deterrent effect.

SANJIVANI,
Feb. 18th, 1888.

21. The *Sanjivani*, of the 18th February, approves of the resolution of the pleaders of the Alipore Bar not to appear in the Court of the District Judge, Mr. Rampini, who is stated to behave badly towards them. It speaks well for the country that the pleaders have at last learnt to combine.

SANJIVANI.

22. The same paper, referring to the Sylhet Forced Labour case, reported in paragraph 90 of the Report on Native Papers for the week ending 4th February 1888, says that the way in which the case is being tried makes it impossible for any one else but the authorities concerned to guess how many days more the case will take before it is finally disposed of.

(d)—Education.

CHARU VARTA,
Feb. 6th & 13th, 1888.

23. The *Charuvarta*, of the 6th and 13th February, is prepared to acknowledge the usefulness of the suggestions made by Government in the Moral Education Resolution, but is of opinion that the most effective means for the formation of character is good example. Boys require to observe virtue in practice both at home and at school in order to be able to form a good character. Government cannot regulate the education or supervise the conduct of boys in their homes, but it can, by appointing men of really good character as

teachers, give them the opportunity of observing good examples of conduct. School-boys readily take to the ways of their teachers. Those that conceive the usefulness of a good teacher to lie solely in giving good advice are greatly mistaken, for he cannot be a good teacher who is not himself of an unimpeachable character, and who does not live a virtuous life. It is only because the people of this country do not understand the value of character, that many persons who do not possess it at all pass for good teachers. Good character is at a discount among school-masters in this country, and both the public and the Government are blind to this fact. In appointing teachers, no care is taken to select men of good character. This matter should receive the earliest attention of the authorities and the general public.

24. The same paper asks Government to follow up the good it has done by holding Sanskrit examinations and by making grants to the *tols*. The writer fears that

Grants to *tols*.

this request will not find favour with Government. Although vast sums are recklessly wasted in such things as the Burmese War, the frontier defences and the Sikkim fiasco, Government grudges the smallest expenditure for the study of Sanskrit, a language which is held so dear by the very people at whose cost the luxury of war is indulged in.

A well-known pandit of Mymensingh, who keeps a *tol* of 25 or 30 students, recently applied to the Inspector of Schools, Eastern Circle, for a grant; but was informed in reply that the present state of the exchequer did not permit such expenditure.

25. The *Sansodhini*, of the 10th February, says that, with a view to improving the morality of school-boys, particular attention should be paid to the inter-

The morality of school-boys.

school rules, and the existing age restrictions in regard to the Middle English, Middle Vernacular and Primary Scholarships should be done away with. Boys generally understate their age in order to be able to obtain scholarships; and the practice of understating age is certainly a demoralising practice. The number of text-books should also be reduced, as too many books take up too much of the teacher's time to enable him to devote his attention to any other work however important. The boys, too, cannot read up so many books, and therefore have recourse to foul practices in order to succeed at the examination. This, too, is demoralising.

26. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 14th February, says that although the present system of primary education is better than the old *pathsala* system, still it is

Primary education in Bengal.

not without grave defects. The subject of zemindari accounts is a little too hard for boys of 10 or 11 years of age. In the old *pathsalas* only the most advanced boys were taught zemindari accounts. The number of books read in the primary schools is also very large. And science as a subject of study in the primary schools is most objectionable. It is difficult in itself, and it is absolutely unintelligible without experiments, for which, however, there is no provision in the primary schools either in the shape of apparatus or in that of skilled teachers. The members of District Boards are now entrusted with the supervision of primary education, and it is hoped that they will try to remedy these defects.

27. The *Sahachar*, of the 15th February, says that the class which has been opened for female students in the Campbell Medical School will serve only to promote

The female class in the Campbell Medical School.

quackery. It is very difficult to master the science of medicine, and then there is no medical text-book written in such plain Bengali as can be understood by students, of whom a very low standard of general qualification is required. The Bengali classes for male students in

CHABU VANTA,
Feb. 6th & 13th, 1888.

SANSODHINI,
Feb. 10th, 1888.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Feb. 14th, 1888.

SAHACHAR,
Feb. 15th, 1888.

the School have produced only a lot of ignorant doctors, and the new female class will produce worse doctors if possible. The writer is constrained to say with the writer in the *British Medical Gazette* that "it is fatal to treat the science of medicine as mere child's play, and to permit men, upon whom the lives of thousands will depend, to go about with only a skin-deep knowledge of it." Wonderful indeed is the judgment and intelligence of the European allopaths who have made this innovation! They apparently hold in high esteem the female doctors who can hardly lisp the A B C of medicine, but despise as of little worth the men who have received a thorough medical training and practised the profession with ability for years together if they only happen to be unpassed men!

Jagatran,
Feb. 16th, 1888.

28. The *Jagatbâsi*, of the 16th February, says that those who think that every Englishman is an incarnation of virtue would do well to look at the

The Larpent case.

Larpent case. If a native had been guilty of such dishonest practices as are being alleged against Mr. Larpent, an awful howl would have been made by many Anglo-Indians; but it can be boldly affirmed that no native holding such an important post would have been capable of acting as Mr. Larpent has acted.

Sulabh Samachar & Kuchdaha,
Feb. 17th, 1888.

29. The *Sulabh Samachar and Kuchdaha*, of the 17th February, says that a large number of Prussian ladies have submitted a petition to their Government praying for the employment of female teachers

Female teachers in the higher classes of girls' schools.

in the upper classes of girls' schools. Such an arrangement should be adopted in every country, and especially in India.

Pratikar,
Feb. 17th, 1888.

30. The *Pratikar*, of the 17th February, says that a clerk was formerly attached to the office of the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Moorshedabad; but the post has since been abolished on the plea of

An education clerk for Moorshedabad.

retrenchment of expenditure. But this measure has practically led to the abolition of the Deputy Inspector's office. For the Deputy Inspector being a travelling officer, who is the most part of his time out of head-quarters, his office work is not done all the time he is out visiting. It is hoped that the Director of Public Instruction will soon revive the post of a clerk in the Deputy Inspector's office.

Bangabasi,
Feb. 18th, 1888.

31. A correspondent of the *Bangabâsi*, of the 18th February, says that there is a lower primary school at Raghbapore, a village in the Gybanda sub-division of the Rungpore district, whose

The lower primary school at Raghbapore in Rungpore.

pandit and pupils have joined a jatra party in that village. The school is on this account deteriorating.

Som Prakash,
Feb. 20th, 1888.

32. The *Som Prakash*, of the 20th February, says, with reference to primary *pathshalas*—

Primary education in Bengal.

(i).—That the *gurus* of these *pathshalas* are an extremely indigent set of men. They have to shift for their daily bread, and they cannot on that account attend properly to their tutorial work. But if they get fixed monthly salaries, and that regularly and punctually, they may be able to devote all their time to teaching work.

(ii).—Then, again, a large number of the text-books prescribed for the primary examination are quite useless. It is very unreasonable to expect boys of ten or eleven years of age to answer questions about *Jama-wasil-baki* and *robar*, which are the most difficult among zemindari papers, and which grown-up mohurirs take four or five years to master.

(iii.)—Lastly, the number of books read in the *pathshalas* is very large. In the writer's opinion *Bodhodaya*, a small grammar, and a little arithmetic, including *Subhankari* and mental arithmetic, would be quite sufficient, attention being paid to calligraphy; and *Saral Sarir-palan* may be retained, if its retention is considered absolutely necessary. But anything over and above this would be too much for the primary examination. Zemindari and mahajani accounts should be included in the Middle Vernacular course. The health of little boys must break down if they have to read too many and too heavy text-books.

33. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 21st February, says that the students preparing for the ensuing Entrance Examination have been put to great inconvenience in consequence of the announcement made by the Calcutta Syndicate that their examination will take place in the first week of March next. As the last Academic Session commenced in the third week of June last, these boys have got only eight months to prepare themselves for the examination.

*DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Feb. 21st, 1888.*

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

34. The *Charuvarta*, of the 6th and 13th February, says that the departure of Moulavi Bazl-ul-karim from Netrokona has left the Chairmanship of the Local Board and Municipality vacant. As the Moulavi was not in good temper on the day of his departure, he failed to make arrangements for filling up the vacancy. Meanwhile, Heaven alone knows where Mr. Hollow now is—at Dacca or in Calcutta. Such disorder would not have arisen if it had been formally arranged that the Deputy Magistrate for the time being would be the Chairman of the Board and of the Municipality. Looking at these things, the writer is inclined to think that it would have been better if the Local Board had been instituted after the introduction of the elective system. Will the people be so fortunate as to find that system introduced during the time of Mr. Dutt, the much-respected Magistrate? It would have been well if the system had been introduced into the Municipality at any rate.

*CHARUVARTA,
Feb. 6th & 13th, 1888.*

The Municipality makes a monthly grant of one rupee to each of the three *pathshalas* at Netrokona. This shows that the Commissioners are disinclined to render any material help to these institutions. But it is fair to be somewhat liberal in providing for the education of the poorer classes for it is from them that taxes are wrung out.

35. The *Sahachar*, of the 15th February, says that Baboo Surendra, Nath Banerjee has protested against the order of Mr. Forbes, the Magistrate of the 24-Per-gunnahs, directing that the Sub-divisional Officers will convene meetings of the Commissioners for the purpose of electing Chairmen, and will read out the orders of the Magistrate without directly exercising any authority during the progress of such proceedings. Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee has informed Mr. Forbes that the law does not empower either the Sub-divisional Officers or the Magistrate himself to exercise any authority at such elections; and that, in the opinion of competent lawyers, all meetings of Commissioners convened by Sub-divisional Officers for the purpose of electing Chairmen are illegal. Mr. Forbes is a very sensible man, and the writer therefore expects him to act with care and judgment, and hopes he will rectify any error he may have committed in this connection.

*SACHAR,
Feb. 15th, 1888.*

Mr. Forbes on the election of Municipal Chairmen.

HINDU RASHTRA,
Feb. 15th, 1888.

36. The *Hindu Rashtri*, of the 15th February, says that there is a foul tank to the north of Shahebbazar and to the west of Baboo Iswar Chandra Majumdar's lodging in Rampore Beaulah. The residents of the neighbourhood throw dirty refuse into this tank. The outbreak of malarious fever and cholera in the locality is mainly due to the existence of this tank. And as the water of this tank is used for drinking purposes, the municipal authorities are requested to at once re-excavate it and keep it in good order.

A foul tank in Rampore Beaulah.

SULABH SAMACHAR &
KUSHDAHA,
Feb. 17th, 1888.

37. The *Sulabh Samachar and Kushdaha*, of the 17th February, says that the village municipalities are not working satisfactorily, and the object with which the elective system was introduced into this country has not been fully realised in villages situated at a considerable distance from towns and other centres of enlightenment. Rich and influential men, devoid of all sense of public responsibility, have acquired most power in the village municipalities, and that is why ordinary village people cannot express their views in an independent spirit on the occasion of the municipal elections, and often elect unworthy men as Commissioners out of fear. The educated and enlightened people of the villages ordinarily reside in towns for purposes of business, and they cannot therefore attend regularly to the affairs of the village municipalities. And if they at all present themselves for election, they are opposed on the ground of their habitual absence from the villages and their irregular attendance. Thus, only those men whose wealth enables them to lord it over the poor villagers happen to monopolise municipal power, which they exercise in a manner which is highly prejudicial to the cause of Local Self-Government. The writer is therefore of opinion that Government ought to ascertain how the men who are most independent, highminded, and fearless in their attitude towards the wealthy and unscrupulous *Dalapatis* in the villages may be induced to serve on the Municipal Boards, and it ought thereafter to assist such men in getting themselves employed on those Boards.

Mofussil municipalities.

SANJIVANI,
Feb. 18th, 1888.

38. The *Sanjivani*, of the 18th February, is astonished at the election of a European Chairman for the North Barrackpore Municipality. Most people in this country will allow a European to make an arbitrary exercise of power rather than entrust power to one of their own countrymen. And this is why the Commissioners of the North Barrackpore Municipality have thrown out their old native Chairman and elected Major Scott in his place. This election means that there is not one native in all North Barrackpore fit to hold the office of Municipal Chairman. But the fact is not so. There are many men in North Barrackpore fit for that office, and it is due only to the thoughtlessness of some among the Commissioners that a European has been elected Chairman. Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee proposed Ray Gopal Mohan Sarkar Bahadoor for the Chairmanship, and Baboo Saroda Prosad Ghose seconded and Mr. Price supported the proposal. Will those who voted for Major Scott say what objections they could urge against the election of Ray Gopal Mohan?

The election of Chairman in the North Barrackpore Municipality.

SANJIVANI.

39. The same paper opposes the rumoured nomination by Government of Mr. Cuthbert MacDonnell, Superintendent of the Local Jute Company, to the Chairmanship of the Serajgunge Municipality on the following grounds:—

The Chairmanship of the Serajgunge Municipality.

- (1) Mr. MacDonnell is young in years, and indiscretion is a prominent trait in his character.
- (2) Mr. MacDonnell is opposed to the interests of the Municipality.

- (3) Mr. MacDonnell has already taken steps to take over the management of the local ferry ; and as the ferry question is still undecided, he, if elected Chairman, will have to sit in judgment on his own case.
- (4) Last year he insulted the Municipal Commissioners by his writings and acts.
- (5) During the last three years the Municipality managed its own affairs successfully. Where then is the necessity for appointing an outsider to the Chairmanship?
- (6) The appointment of a European Chairman will amount to questioning the fitness of Bengalis for municipal work, and will thus materially injure the cause of Local Self-Government.
- (7) Under a European Chairman the municipal funds are likely to be spent, as before, in the interest of particular individuals and classes rather than in that of the public.

40. The *Bangabasi*, of the 18th February, has received the following telegram from Dacca :—"A very crowded and enthusiastic meeting of the rate-payers of the

BANGABASI,
Feb. 18th, 1888.

The Dacca Municipality.

Dacca Municipality, called at the instance of the President of the Rate-payers' Association, was held on Sunday at 4-30 P.M. No less than 3,000 rate-payers attended the East Bengal theatre house. The following resolution was passed :—That this meeting confirms the resolutions of the rate-payers' meeting held on the 22nd of July, passing a vote of censure and want of confidence, and considers that the explanations which the Chairman has published are not satisfactory ; that many of the charges laid against him have not at all been touched by him ; that in the opinion of the meeting it be held that some friends of Baboo Ananda Chunder Roy, by misrepresentations and concealing the true object, have procured the signatures of many persons, with a view of presenting a petition to the authorities for nominating Ananda Baboo as a Commissioner by Government ; that this meeting deprecates their conduct in this important matter ; that the Chairman of the Rate-payers' Association be requested to apply immediately for a copy of aforesaid petition, and that the said President be requested, on receipt of the copy, to make a true representation on the subject, ascertaining from the so-called signatories by what pretences their signatures were obtained ; that this meeting adopts the petitions made to the authorities against Ananda Baboo's nomination. While this resolution was being discussed several rate-payers stated that their signatures were obtained on various pretexts other than for Ananda Baboo's nomination."

The Baboo advocates of Local Self-Government are now pursuing a suicidal policy by publishing such scandals as these in connection with their pet system. But if Government withdraws the privilege of Self-Government from the Dacca Municipality on the strength of these disgraceful disclosures, the same Baboos will raise a tremendous howl all over the country. A selfish people like these Baboos do not deserve to be entrusted with political rights.

41. A correspondent of the same paper takes exception to the proposed construction of a *pucca* bridge on one of the roads in Ward No. I of the Bogra

BANGABASI.

A bridge in the Bogra Municipality.

Municipality. The road in question is not an important one, and is not much used by the public. There is not also much traffic on it. It is only used by some Baboos for the purpose of going to the river to bathe. And is that the reason why a bridge is going to be constructed? Or will the bridge be constructed for the purpose of securing the safety of the house

newly built by a friend of the Vice-Chairman? The Municipal Commissioners are requested to look to the matter.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Feb. 19th, 1888.

42. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 19th February, says that the meeting recently convened by the newly-established Rate-payers' Association of Dacca to determine what steps should be taken in connection with the Municipal Chairman Ananda Baboo was a failure. Despite the efforts of its promoters to secure a large attendance, the meeting was attended only by some 50 men, most of whom reside at Bangsal, and none of whom are men of note and respectability. Even M. Syad Abdul Bari in whose name the meeting was called was absent from the meeting. When the proposals condemning the letter in which Ananda Baboo attempted to refute the charges brought against him and the petition presented to Government by the respectable people of Dacca asking for the re-appointment of Ananda Baboo as a Commissioner were made, the whole assembly, with the exception of seven or eight among the promoters, left the meeting. And these seven or eight men then proposed that the proceedings of the meeting be sent to the Magistrate and the Commissioner as well as to the editors of newspapers. Knowing that it would be impossible to deceive the local press, the promoters of the meeting have used the columns of the *Calcutta Mirror* for the purpose of publishing an exaggerated account of the meeting, stating that some 3,000 rate-payers attended the meeting. But nothing can be further from the truth than this statement.

The meeting was held in the East Bengal Theatre room which is 54 cubits long by 21 cubits broad, and which can therefore accommodate at the most only 1,134 persons, supposing each person to occupy a space of 1 square cubit.

There were many men present at the meeting who protested against its proceedings, and among them was Rahat Bux, a respectable Mahomedan gentleman, who more than once attempted to address the meeting on behalf of Ananda Baboo, and was stopped by the opposite party.

The attempt to represent a meeting of no more than 50 out of 14,000 rate-payers of Dacca as a representative meeting of the general body of the rate-payers is simply ridiculous.

DACCA PRAKASH.

43. The same paper asks the Municipality of Dacca to proclaim by beat of drum that the proper price of salt per seer is six pice.

The price of salt within the Dacca Municipality.

SOM PRAKASH,
Feb. 20th, 1888.

44. A correspondent of the *Som Prakash*, of the 20th February, referring to the appointment of Baboo Sarat Chandra Roy as Vice-Chairman of the Santipore Municipality, says that Baboo Sarat Chandra is an industrious and educated young man, and that he will do his utmost to improve the municipality. For several reasons, however, most of the Commissioners have been opposing and obstructing him. Such being the case, it is a matter of regret that he at all came forward as a candidate for the Vice-Chairmanship.

The Santipore Municipality.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

BANGABASI
Feb. 18th, 1888.

45. A correspondent of the *Bangabasi*, of the 18th February, complains of the highhanded proceedings of Baboo Gopal Chandra Mullik, record-keeper of the Bhogobanpore khas office in the Contai sub-division of the Midnapore district. Only a ten-anna instalment of the rent has now

Oppression in the Midnapore Khas Mehal.

become due, but the record-keeper has come over to collect the full rent of the year. The following cases of oppression are mentioned:—

- (1) The record-keeper went to the house of one Krishna Mandal of the Bhupatinagar mouza. Krishna was not at home. The record-keeper beat the women of Krishna's house so severely that one of them, Krishna's mother-in-law, had her hand fractured. The record-keeper had with him no certificate authorising attachment of property, and yet he forcibly took away doors and door-frames and four annas to pay coolie hire.
- (2) A small amount of rent was due from a woman who was taking her meal when the record-keeper went to her house. The record-keeper would not wait till the woman had finished her meal, and ordered a low-caste peon to take her by the hand. She was then beaten.
- (3) Trailokya Ram Jana, an old man of 60 years of age, of the village of Bhupatinagar, who has paid off all his dues up to date, was severely beaten in order to make him pay for the whole year. The old man swooned thrice.
- (4) On Monday, the 10th Magh last, the record-keeper went to the Bianda *hât*. The son of Jadab Jana, of the village of Damurdandi, had also gone to the *hât*. He has paid rent on account of the 10-anna *touzi*. He was, however, beaten with a shoe by the record-keeper himself and his *paiks*, in order to make him pay the full rent of the year. Many other persons who came to the *hât* received similar treatment.

The Sub-Manager of the Bhogobanpore khas office and the Sub-divisional Officer of Contai are requested to enquire why these brutal assaults were committed, and why an attempt was made to realize the full amount of rent before it fell due. Rent was collected in a most satisfactory manner during the last four or five years. The *touzi* system has been introduced by Government with a view of enabling the ryots to pay rent in instalments. The record-keeper, Gopal Chandra, and other officers of the khas office have purchased at auction sales 4,000 or 5,000 bighas of land at Mulikpore, in the Paharpore pergunnah.

The rent of these lands has fallen into arrear for the last two years, but the Sub-Manager takes no notice of the matter. The condition of the people of this part of the country is most deplorable. There is no means of draining off water, and the paddy crops have nearly failed for the last four or five years in succession. The fields have become quite unfit for the cultivation of paddy by reason of their remaining under water. But in spite of all these disadvantages the cultivators are regularly paying rent in instalments. The higher officers of Government are requested to make a careful enquiry into these matters.

46. The *Sanjivani*, of the 18th February, referring to the memorial sent to the Lieutenant-Governor by some ryots against their zemindar, Baboo Harihar Mookerjee of Uttarpara, hopes that Sir Stuart Bayley will not fail to do justice in the matter.

SANJIVANI,
Feb. 18th, 1888.

Baboo Harihar Mookerjee, zemindar of Uttarpara.

47. The *Som Prakash*, of the 20th February, says that the ryots of Uttarbar and Jampardaha in Howrah have memorialized the Local Government on the subject of the oppression which is said to be exercised upon them by their zemindar, Baboo Harihar Mookerjee, of

SOM PRAKASH,
Feb. 20th, 1888.

Alleged oppression by a zemindar of Howrah.

Ustarpara. If the facts be as the ryots allege, the matter must be very serious. For the Legislative Council will stand condemned if ryots are found liable to be oppressed by the zemindars in spite of the Tenancy Act. The writer hopes that the impartial and kindhearted Lieutenant-Governor will listen to the prayer of the poor ryots and earn their blessings by granting them speedy redress after making a careful inquiry.

(g)—*Railways and communications including canals and irrigation.*

CHÁRU VÁRTÁ,
Feb. 6th & 13th, 1882.

A road at Ghoshgaon in Mymensingh.

48. A correspondent of the *Cháru Vártá*, of the 6th and 13th February, complains of the want of a direct road from Ghoshgaon to Nasirabad in the district

DACCA PRÁKÁSH,
Feb. 19th, 1882.

The Dacca-Goalundo Steamer Service.

49. The *Dacca Prákásh*, of the 19th February, complains of the loss entailed on the Postal Department and the general public in consequence of the steamer plying between Dacca and Goalundo being delayed on the way.

(h)—*General.*

CHÁRU VÁRTÁ,
Feb. 6th & 13th, 1882.

The constitution of the Legislative Council.

50. The *Cháru Vártá*, of the 6th and 13th February, says that the Legislative Council is a merely nominal institution, as the destinies of India are virtually ruled by the will and pleasure of successive Viceroys. Lord Lytton's acts were undone by Lord Ripon in the same way as Lord Dufferin is now slowly undoing all the good things that Lord Ripon did for India. The fate of this country is thus of a very changeable character; its happiness, as well as its misery, is fleeting and transitory. The question therefore arises, whether a people can derive any good from such a rule? It is, of course, madness to expect Governors of the type of Lord Ripon to be always at the head of affairs. If the Viceregal term of office is extended, there will be less change, but it will not be advisable for many reasons to do so. A man like Lord Ripon may be always welcome; but Lord Lytton, as a ruler for any length of time, would be anything but agreeable.

The one effective remedy for this mischievous variability of the administrative system lies in strengthening and remodelling the constitution of the Viceregal Legislative Council. This Council should direct the whole administration, and it should be for the Governor-General to carry out what it directs. But such a remodelling of the Legislative Council cannot be effected without introducing the representative principle into it.

CHÁRU VÁRTÁ.

The increase of the salt duty.

51. The same paper says that the argument that the rise in the price of salt consequent on the increase of the salt duty will be very trifling—that the increase in price will not exceed one pice, can be accepted as correct only by the rich who cannot conceive what increase of expenditure, not exceeding even two pice per month, means to the poor.

CHÁRU VÁRTÁ.

The coolies in Assam.

52. The same paper hopes that Lord Dufferin will yet do something to earn the gratitude of the people of this country. The poor people whom he has offended by increasing the salt duty will shower blessings on him if he grants liberty to the coolies of Assam. The writer hears that Lord Dufferin has a coolie law under his consideration, and begs sincerely that His Excellency will, on the eve of his departure, provide for the liberty and safety of these innocent people. There are few who befriend the poor, and the writer will forget all His Lordship's faults if he shows some kindness to the poor coolies of Assam.

There are some who say that if the present system of coolie-recruiting is abolished, it will lead to the ruin of the tea industry in Assam, and consequently deprive this country of a very profitable trade and blight all hopes of the progress of Assam. The writer admits the force of this argument, but he cannot, in spite of this, look with a complacent eye upon the brutal treatment to which coolies are subjected in Assam. He will forego with a just disdain any gold or silver which may be obtained at the cost of the life and liberty of Her Majesty's poor subjects. No civilized people can, in fact, approve of such money-making.

53. The same paper does not mean to say that Lord Dufferin has wounded the feelings of his subjects by committing acts of injustice, but he believes that His Lordship has failed to win even a fraction of that love and good-will which Lord Ripon won by his kindness and justice.

CHABU VARTA,
Feb. 6th & 13th, 1888

54. The *Srimanta Sadagar*, of the 11th February, referring to the resignation of Lord Dufferin, remarks that His Lordship came to India with a good name and will return to England with a bad name. He will remain in this country another year, and if he can, during that time, reorganise the Legislative Councils on a representative basis, abolish the Arms Act, grant volunteering rights to natives and separate the Judicial and Executive functions, he will return to his native country with the blessings of the whole population of India on his head.

SRIMANTA SADAGAR,
Feb. 11th, 1888.

55. The *Gaura Duta*, of the 13th February, has received a communication against the Sub-Registrar of Kaliachak in Maldah. The Sub-Registrar is requested to behave properly in future.

GAURA DUTA,
Feb. 13th, 1888.

56. The *Sar Sudhanidhi*, of the 13th February, says that some English writers are in the habit of describing India as a burden upon England. This is not correct, for the fact is that both the countries are under obligations to each other. Besides, writing like this does mischief by giving countries like Russia the idea that there is not perfect harmony between England and India.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
Feb. 13th, 1888.

57. The same paper says that as Lord Dufferin's administration has hitherto been very unpopular, he has still a chance of leaving a good reputation in India if he carries out the following reforms :—

SAR SUDHANIDHI.

- (1) The remodelling of the Legislative Councils on a representative basis.
- (2) Repeal of the Arms Act.
- (3) Granting volunteering privileges to natives.
- (4) Separation of the Executive and Judicial functions.

58. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 14th February, says that the Financial Member of the Viceregal Council attributes the deficit in the budget to three causes, namely :—

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Feb. 14th, 1888.

- (1) The strengthening of the North-Western Frontier of India.
- (2) The increased rate of exchange.
- (3) The annexation of Upper Burma.

Mr. Westland thinks that there is no means of avoiding any of these items of expenditure, but the writer thinks that there is such means.

The Government is in constant dread of a Russian invasion of India, and it is therefore spending a large sum of money in strengthening the frontier defences. But this fear of Russia is considered by many wise and

farseeing men, to be perfectly groundless. But supposing the Government view of the matter to be correct, it does not follow that the expenditure on account of the frontier defences cannot be materially reduced. To prevent Russia from entering into India, it is only necessary to fortify the mountain passes through which India can be reached. The money which is being spent on the construction of roads, railways and fortifications beyond the frontier is therefore so much money wasted and might be saved.

The loss on account of exchange may be prevented or reduced if the home charges are paid in Indian money, if the articles which the Government of India buys in England for its own use are bought in India, and if a portion of the cost of recruiting and training in England those soldiers who are employed not only in India, but also in all other parts of Her Majesty's Empire, is charged to England's Colonies.

The annexation of Upper Burmah has led to very heavy expenditure; but it is very doubtful whether Upper Burmah will ever be able to pay to India. Burmah should therefore be made a British Colony like Ceylon, and her connection with India should at once cease. If Burmah is cut out, a large saving will be effected.

HINDU RANJIKA,
Feb. 15th, 1888.

59. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 15th February, says that the prevalence of theft and dacoity in this country is due only to the increasing wants of the people; and that being the case, neither the army nor the police will be able to suppress theft or dacoity in the country. Let the Government try to remove the wants of the people, and theft and dacoity will steadily diminish.

HINDU RANJIKA.

60. Notwithstanding what Lord Dufferin has said regarding his resignation, the same paper says that disagreement with the House of Lords on the question of the re-imposition of the cotton duties is one of the causes of His Lordship's resignation. This may not be the sole cause, but it is certain that it is one cause.

SAHACHAR,
Feb. 15th, 1888.

61. The *Sahachar*, of the 15th February, hears that Mr. Westmacott's inquiry into the working of the outstill system in Howrah has convinced him that these outstills are working serious mischief. If this report be true, some mitigation of the evil may be expected.

SAHACHAR.

62. The same paper is sorry to hear that Lord Dufferin is going away before his time. Much was expected of him, which it will not be possible for him to do within the space of one year. He has not, up to the present moment, been able to devote his attention to the internal affairs of India, the last three years having been spent by him in strengthening frontier defences, in increasing the military establishment in India, and in settling the Afghan boundary question. His attention was engrossed by Russia and Burmah, and Thibet too received some share of it. Fortunately, foreign affairs do not now demand all his time and attention, and he has therefore directed his attention to the internal administration of the country. This is in fact just the time for Lord Dufferin to endeavour to promote the happiness of the people of India, and to remove their wants and grievances. In two years he would have been able to do a great deal in this direction, but unfortunately for the people of India he remains only one year more.

It is possible, however, that things may be done in ten months which could not be done in three years. When times are favourable, one year's work may be accomplished in ten days. Lord Dufferin's acts and words have more than once impressed the writer with the belief that His Excellency is India's well-wisher. It is, indeed, due to defect in the

system of administration that the Governors-General of India cannot accomplish what they desire to do. It is thus that Lord Ripon failed to carry out his wishes. The writer has no doubt whatever that Lord Dufferin will yet avail himself of every possible opportunity of doing good to the people of this country.

63. The same paper has no objection to reasonable expenditure incurred with the object of ensuring the safety of the empire, but it will not tolerate

SANACHAR,
Feb. 15th, 1888.

Wasteful expenditure.

wasteful expenditure—

- (i) The office of the Secretary of State for India does more harm than good to this country, and is besides very costly, being, in fact, much more costly than the office of any other English Secretary. A building has recently been constructed for this office at a cost of one crore, which has been obtained by means of a loan. The building is not India's property, and yet India must pay the interest on this money loan! Why is India made to bear the burden of half a crore on account of Cooper's Hill College? A transport ship has been built at a cost of one crore and 25 lakhs for the conveyance of troops between England and this country. The ship is used also in conveying troops to Australia and the British possessions in Africa and America. Why then should India alone pay the whole cost of its construction and maintenance?
- (ii) Does not the practice of sending out British troops to India for a short time and of sending them with pensions to serve in the English army cause great pecuniary loss to India? The injustice of this system has been pointed out by the Army Commission, by the Indian Commander-in-Chief, Sir Frederick Roberts, and by Lord Wolseley. Why should not this injustice be corrected?
- (iii) Why are those articles indented from England for use in the offices of Government which can be easily had in this country?
- (iv) There is, in fact, wasteful expenditure on all sides. Of the 20 crores annually sent to England, more than one-half is wasted. The fact of this waste cannot be gainsaid. Why should the people of India tolerate such waste? Mr. Evans spoke about these things in the Viceregal Council the other day. And who is there that can refute him? Increased taxation is a necessary consequence of wasteful expenditure; and how heavily is India taxed at the present moment! Immediately after the Sepoy War, India's revenue amounted to 50 crores and her debt to 60 crores. Her revenue at present is 80 crores, and yet her debt amounts to 160 crores! It is impossible to make any impression upon men like Colonel Chesney, who speak so pertly about the material prosperity and financial solvency of India.

64. The same paper says that the increase of the salt duty has raised the price of salt to two annas per seer and in some places even higher, thus causing much inconvenience to the people at large, who are imposed upon by the salt-dealers. Complaints on this score are coming in from all sides. The fact of the increase should have been proclaimed by beat of drum as was

The increase of the salt duty.

SANACHAR

the decrease under Lord Ripon. The writer will do as much as he can to proclaim the fact, and calls upon his contemporaries to do the same.

JAGATRAI,
Feb. 16th, 1888.

65. The *Jagatbâs*, of the 16th February, says that Lord Dufferin has done nothing for the people of India during his administration the recollection of which may make them regret his resignation. It is not known whether his successor, Lord Lansdowne, will prove a well-wisher of the people of this country.

Lord Dufferin's resignation and Lord Lansdowne.

BHARAT MITRA,
Feb. 16th, 1888.

66. The *Bhârat Mitra*, of the 16th February, says that when the English first came out to India they looked upon it as a veritable Eldorado. They fixed enormous salaries for their higher officials, the Governor-General being the most highly-paid officer in the world. But for this original mistake of theirs the Government would not have been heard crying to-day "money, more money."

The extravagance of the British Government.

BHARAT MITRA.

67. The same paper says that whatever Lord Dufferin has done—the Burmese war, the Thibet mission, the income-tax, the frontier defences, &c.—he has done without consulting the wishes of the people; and the result is that he is going away with a lost reputation. If he had remained here two years more he might have atoned for his past shortcomings.

Lord Dufferin's administration.

BHARAT MITRA.

68. The same paper says that the postal peons are an extremely overworked set of men, and it is therefore unfair to fine them heavily if, owing to ill-health or other unavoidable cause, they happen to absent themselves from work for a day or two. Government has not to pay anything extra to the substitutes which absentee peons supply to do their work for them. The post office being a fruitful source of revenue to Government, it is strange that poor postal peons should be so harshly dealt with.

Grievances of postal peons.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
Feb. 17th, 1888.

69. The *Education Gazette*, of the 17th February, is sorry to hear that Lord Dufferin will resign before his time. Every one has received the announcement with surprise and regret. Under His Excellency's administration the empire has enjoyed increased security from danger, and its internal administration has been strengthened. The way in which Lord Dufferin has been governing the country during the last three years must be admitted to be conducive to its progress, and His Lordship's early retirement must therefore be regretted.

Lord Dufferin's retirement.

MURSHIDABAD
PRATINIDHI,
Feb. 17th, 1888.

70. Referring to Lord Dufferin's resignation, the *Murshidabad Pratinidhi*, of the 17th February, says that no memorable event has occurred during His Lordship's administration.

Lord Dufferin's administration.

SULABHA SAMACHAR &
KUSHDAHA,
Feb. 17th, 1888.

71. The *Sulabh Samâchâr and Kushdaha*, of the 17th February, says that a letter, addressed to the editor of that journal, was posted at Burisal on the 25th August 1887, and was received through the Ashmali post office on the 5th February 1888! It is surprising to find such irregularities still existing in such an efficient branch of the administration as the Postal Department. The letter in question has been sent to the Postmaster-General, Bengal, for enquiry, and the result is awaited with interest.

A case of postal irregularity.

PRAJA BANDHU,
Feb. 17th, 1888.

72. The *Prajâ Bandhu*, of the 17th February, is extremely sorry to remark that Lord Dufferin has failed to earn a good name by his Indian administration. If he had not laid down his office at this time, his Indian administration would have completely marred all his previous reputation. He came out to this country at a time when it entertained no fear of war or famine, and if he had only governed the country in a spirit of justice, no one would

Lord Dufferin's administration.

now have complained of his administration. He wasted large sums of India's money on the pretext of giving her good government. From the very moment he set foot in India he proposed to curtail its expenditure, and he therefore appointed the Finance Committee. The Committee has submitted its report, but its recommendations have not been given effect to—nay, even its report has not been published. Then came the Public Service Commission. The natives of India having expressed dissatisfaction at their exclusion from the higher ranks of the public service, His Excellency, by way of humouring them, appointed this Commission to enquire into their complaints. As people still continued to grumble, Lord Dufferin used hard words against them in his Poona speech. His Excellency is an adept in the art of creating disunion amongst the various races of India. He has created quite a breach between Hindus and Mahomedans. None of His Excellency's acts have done so much harm to India as this one of setting class against class.

During his administration the Nizam of Hyderabad, the Begum of Bhopal, the Maharajah of Cashmere, and several other natives chiefs have had greater or less reasons to complain of oppression. Preparations for war have also gone on on every side. And who, in the face of these facts, shall praise the administration of Lord Dufferin?

73. The *Samaya*, of the 17th February, has the following on the subject of Lord Dufferin's resignation:—

Lord Dufferin's resignation.

While on the subject of his own resignation at a recent meeting of his Council, His Excellency spoke of his Indian administration in terms of self-approbation. But there is, in fact, nothing to admire in his administration. For he has done nothing to promote the internal progress of the country, and his administration is marked by serious financial embarrassment. He has made war on Burmah at the instance of British merchants and saddled the people of this country with the heavy expenses of that war. On the occasion of his opening the bridge at Benares, His Excellency said that the internal advancement of India would thenceforward engage his attention. And as His Excellency will remain in the country for ten months more, he may yet redeem his promise and reputation by doing something in the interests of the people of this country. But if he is at all desirous of doing something of the kind, he can only do it during his short stay at Calcutta.

Lord Dufferin probably did not himself know a few months before that he would have to lay down the Viceroyalty of India so soon, for His Excellency stated on the occasion of the opening of the bridge at Benares that the remaining two years of his administration would be devoted to the advancement of the internal condition of India. It is therefore difficult to imagine what may have happened within so short a time which has compelled him to determine upon resigning his high office before the end of his two remaining years. The explanation which he has himself vouchsafed on the subject is unsatisfactory.

Let the cause of His Excellency's resignation be what it may, His Excellency has ten months of his administration yet left, and it is necessary to warn him to conduct himself with great caution during that time, the more so as the Anglo-Indian newspapers are trying to make him swerve from the right path by comparing him with Lord Dalhousie, forgetting that that comparison is calculated rather to take away from than to add to the glory of His Excellency's administration whatever that glory may be.

74. A correspondent of the same paper says that several people at Barisa in the 24-Pergunnahs have been recently bitten by a rabid jackal which has not been killed up to this time, and asks, are not incidents of this nature due to the Arms Act?

The Arms Act.

SAMAYA.
Feb. 17th, 1888.

SAMAYA.

PRATIKAR,
Feb. 17th, 1888.

BANGABASI,
Feb. 18th, 1888.

SANJIVANI,
Feb. 18th, 1888.

SANJIVANI.

ARYAVARTA,
Feb. 18th, 1888.

URDU GUIDE,
Feb. 18th, 1888.

75. Referring to Lord Dufferin's resignation, the *Pratikar*, of the 17th February, says that His Lordship held out high hopes to the people of this country when he assumed the reins of Government, but none of those hopes has been realised. Will not Lord Dufferin yet fulfil his promises?

76. The *Bangabasi*, of the 18th February, requests Lord Dufferin, now that the time for his departure is drawing near, to direct that a copy of the Weekly Report on Native Papers be supplied to every newspaper in the country. Lord Dufferin is an able and far-sighted statesman and a friend of the native press. He will earn the gratitude of the editors of vernacular newspapers if he grants this prayer.

77. The *Sanjivani*, of the 18th February, referring to the occupation by a frontier tribe of two forts at Gilgit belonging to the Maharaja of Cashmere and to the assault made by the Kukis on the survey party in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, observes that with these disturbances at the two frontiers of India staring him in the face, how could Lord Dufferin say the other day, at the Viceregal Council, that India was enjoying peace! For all this disturbance of peace His Excellency's high-handed policy is responsible.

78. The correspondents of the same paper writing from Canning, Thakurakhali, Bagirhat, Cooch-Behar, Dinahatta, Sylhet, Pubna-Kabasi-Khala, Hooghly-Bhangamora, Goalund-Ratandiya, Rajshahye, Tuland, the 24-Per-gunnabs, Rahasa, Noakhali, Sonamura, Midnapur-Yasara, Rajshahye-Kasimpur, Noakhali Begumunge, Sylhet, Uchail, Mymensingh-Tangail, Gauhati, Rungpur, Hooghly, Govindapur, Rajshahye-Bhabanipur, Gayori, Natore-Dhupail, Mursidabad, Jayatai and various other places say that the price of salt in those places has risen by two pice per seer.

79. The *Aryavarta*, of the 18th February, says that there is very little difference between the administrations of Lord Lytton and Lord Dufferin. The former introduced the Press Act and the latter has introduced the Copyright Act; the former wasted India's money in the Afghan War, and the latter has done the same thing in the Burmese War. Both of them imposed an income-tax, and there has been famine in the time of both. But Lord Dufferin's rule is a unique one in respect of its salt and petroleum duties. His Excellency's Boundary Commission work, historical though it be, will only facilitate Russian advance on India.

80. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 18th February, would like to know how far the recommendations of the Education Commission have been carried out. Sir Steuart Bayley stated at the Calcutta Madrassa the other day that the mere fact of a man being a Mahomedan would have no weight with Government in securing for him an appointment in the public service. The writer is sorry that Sir Steuart said such a thing at all; for the fact is that Mahomedans, be they ever so well qualified, do not obtain employment *simply because* they are Mahomedans. What the writer and his co-religionists demand is—

- (i) that all qualified Mahomedans should be employed in the public service; and
- (ii) that other natives of India who have enjoyed the benefits of English education from an earlier period should not obstruct Mahomedans in entering the public service.

81. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 19th February, thus reviews Lord Dufferin's Indian administration:—

DACCA PRAKASH,
Feb. 19th, 1893.

Lord Dufferin's administration.

Lord Dufferin has done no good to India. He came out to this country chiefly for the purpose of putting an end to the fear of a Russian invasion. And it is the question of a Russian invasion that has hitherto engaged his attention. The settlement of the Afghan boundary question is indeed due to him, but nobody believes that that settlement has removed for good all fear of a Russian invasion. India has consequently been no gainer by that settlement which has nevertheless cost it lots of money. On the other hand, the conquest of Burmah has made a collision with France and China at some future date almost inevitable. His Excellency's administration is also responsible for the imposition of the income-tax and the increase of the salt duty; and the darkest blot on his administration is the passing of the Bengal Tenancy Act, an Act which will have the effect of arraying the ryot against the zemindar, and which, by weakening the zemindar, will, in the long run, weaken Government itself.

82. The same paper says that public convenience requires that passes for the use of guns should be given to such applicants only as are present in the office of the Magistrate to receive them, and that even in this case passes should be given in the order in which applications are received.

DACCA PRAKASH.

Licenses for the use of guns.

83. A correspondent of the same paper says that Baboo Vishnu Charan Banerjee, Post master of the Sub Post Office at Lechhraganj in the southern division of the Manickganj sub-division, Dacca, leaves office every day at 1 o'clock after

DACCA PRAKASH.

Postmaster of the Sub Post Office at Lechhraganj in the Manickganj sub-division.

seeing the Manickganj mail off, and does not return to it before 4 P.M. People coming to the Post Office for money-order forms, stamps, &c., are consequently put to great inconvenience. As the postmaster is also very slow and takes a long time to register a very small number of letters and money-orders, people have to come to his office for days together before they succeed in getting their letters and money-orders registered; and if any common fellow asks him to attend office between 1 and 4, the postmaster abuses him in Hindi. The authorities of the Postal Department are requested to transfer the postmaster elsewhere.

84. The *Som Prakash*, of the 20th February, says that the *Pioneer* gives currency to the report that, in consequence of the arduous nature of the Financial Secretary's duties, a proposal is under the consideration of the Home Authorities for the creation of the post of a Deputy Financial Secretary. But considering the financial difficulties of Government, the writer thinks that it will be unwise to create such a post.

SOM PRAKASH,
Feb. 20th, 1893.

A Deputy Financial Secretary to Government.

85. The same paper says that Lord Dufferin's principal duty in India should have been to increase the happiness of the natives. But he has done the very opposite thing. The events that will signalize his reign are the income-tax, the duty on petroleum, the increase of the salt duty, the Afghan frontier fiasco, increase of popular discontent and the draining of the public exchequer. Looking at these things, who will say that Lord Dufferin is a good ruler of men, that he is a good statesman, or that he is an able administrator? How fond were the hopes that the people built up within themselves when he landed on these shores! But those hopes were destined to resolve themselves into empty nothing. Three years have rapidly rolled by, and the fourth is speeding on, and yet the ill-starred natives have not received a single benefit, nor can they count upon receiving one. There is a widespread apprehension

SOM PRAKASH.

Lord Dufferin's administration.

that the continuance of Lord Dufferin's rule will only bring in new taxes. It thus happens that none of the native papers will be particularly sorry if Lord Dufferin goes away. These papers believe that his departure will bring happiness to India.

Lord Dufferin has directly and indirectly endeavoured to increase the discord between Hindus and Mahomedans by showing undue partiality to the latter in the award of scholarships and titles of honour.

NAV AVISHARAK
SADHARANI,
Feb. 20th, 1888.

86. The *Navavibhakar Sadharoni*, of the 20th February, says that now that Lord Dufferin has finally settled the North-Western Frontier question, he will have ample opportunity, within the next twelve months, to turn his attention to the subject of internal administration and to do good in various ways to the people of India.

One of the greatest and most memorable events of his administration is the Public Service Commission. The writer earnestly hopes that so much ado will not be allowed to end in nothing. The result of the Army Commission has shaken men's faith in these Commissions of Enquiry. If the Public Service Commission proves equally futile, the people will never ask Government again to hold any enquiry. Lord Dufferin should do all that he can to give effect to the recommendations of the Commission.

The Viceroy in Council is to frame rules for the appointment of men in each of the presidencies, according to nationality, age, and attainments. If this is done in a spirit of fairness, the people of India are likely to benefit.

The large salaries of the higher officials constitute a crushing burden upon India. It will therefore be a very good thing if Lord Dufferin writes to the Home authorities recommending the reduction of the number of such offices. This is just the time to make such a reduction. The income from opium will go on decreasing and the exchange difficulty will go on increasing; and so the maintenance of so many highly-paid officers will become increasingly difficult in future. If Lord Dufferin carries out this suggestion he will do great good to the country.

DACCA GAZETTE,
Feb. 20th, 1888.

87. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 20th February, is sorry to find that in the course of his speech in the Viceregal Council the Hon'ble Raja Peary Mohun Mookerjee said that the salt duty will not touch even the poorest Indian in such a manner as to cause him hardship or inconvenience. If there had been any system of legislative representation at work in this country, Government would have seen that the Hon'ble Peary Mohun was not what he is now—a member of the Viceregal Council. The Rajah owes his exalted position to the patronage of Government, and he is bound to support its measures, good or bad.

DACCA GAZETTE.

88. Referring to Lord Dufferin's resignation, the same paper says that much of His Lordship's time and attention have been devoted to the strengthening of the North-Western frontier of India. He has therefore found no time to attend to the subject of internal reform. Lord Ripon earned the gratitude of the people of India by introducing many beneficial measures; but his successor has only overburdened them with taxes. No Governor-General imposed so many taxes as Lord Dufferin has done. The only memorable event of His Lordship's administration is the annexation of Burmah. His Lordship can, however, still leave a lasting reputation behind him if he reorganises the Legislative Councils on a representative basis.

GAUHAR,
Feb. 20th, 1888.

89. The *Gauhar*, of the 20th February, says that no Viceroy of India has introduced so many disagreeable taxes as Lord Dufferin has done; but he may yet win the love of the people by abolishing all the taxes and increasing

instead the import duties by two annas per maund and the passenger fares in railways by one pice in the rupee.

90. The same paper recommends Government to grant adequate allowances to the family of the late ex-King of Oudh, as any illiberality towards them would lower the English name in the estimation of the people of this country, and will also alarm native princes.

Allowances to the family of the late ex-King of Oudh.

GAUHAR.
Feb. 20th, 1888.

91. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 21st February, says that the language which the Hindu papers are using against Lord Dufferin is of a kind which will disgrace any civilized society.

The Hindu papers on Lord Dufferin.

URDU GUIDE,
Feb. 21st, 1888.

92. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 21st February, says that as the people who have memorialized Government on the subject of closing the breaches in the embankment of the Damoodar at Begna and Jankuli have pointed out how such closing may be effected without endangering the safety of the East Indian Railway line, it behoves Government to attend to these prayers without delay.

Breaches in the Damoodar embankment.

DAINIK AND SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Feb. 21st, 1888.

93. The same paper, referring to General Chesney's speech in the Viceregal Council, in the course of which he deprecated all pessimistic views of Indian finance, saying that India was able to bear almost any amount of burden that might be placed on her shoulder, and that it was sheer nonsense to talk of the financial difficulties of the country which could shew a surplus of three crores after the Sepoy Mutiny, &c., says that General Chesney has forgotten that the public debt of India which was 60 crores after the Mutiny had amounted to 160 crores. This means that India's indebtedness has increased by 100 crores in 30 years, that is to say, at the rate of one crore a year! And if this be not something which should cause anxiety, one does not know what should. The fact is, men like General Chesney may afford to speak lightly of Indian finance, because they know that no part of India's heavy pecuniary liability will have to be borne by themselves personally or their children or children's children.

General Chesney on Indian finance.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

94. The *Sahachar*, of the 15th February, is glad to learn that the Maharajah of Vizianagram has been appointed an Extraordinary Member of the Viceregal Legislative Council, and will be still more glad if His Highness proves himself worthy of the high trust with which he has been honoured.

Maharajah of Vizianagram in the Viceregal Council.

SAHACHAR,
Feb. 15th, 1888.

95. The same paper says that the clause in the new Municipal Bill, according to which the number of a man's votes is made to depend upon the amount of house-rent paid by him, has been passed into law in spite of the opposition of the native members of the Bengal Council. This law will serve to increase Anglo-Indian influence in the municipality, and to increase that influence seems to be the principal object of the whole Bill. Seeing how this municipal question is being dealt with, the native members should not go to the Council at all. Under the existing law a man is permitted to vote in the ward in which his house is as well as in that in which he has his place of business. Under the proposed law a man will be able to vote only in the ward in which he lives. The effect of this change will also be to put down the natives. The new law will, in fact, make the Anglo-Indians absolute rulers of Calcutta, and compel the natives to quit the town.

The Calcutta Municipal Bill.

SAHACHAR.

SURABHI & PATÁKA,
Feb. 16th, 1888.

96. The *Surabhi and Patáka*, of the 16th February, says that the clause in the new Municipal Bill, which gives qualified voters the privilege of giving more votes than one, will enable the wealthier rate-payers to return whomsoever they like to represent the different wards. The position of the poorer classes in the municipality will thus be made most weak. Indeed, the long and the short of the matter is that the Bill will be passed in a shape which will meet the wishes of the European community and the plan which Sir Rivers Thompson had in view.

97. The *Bangabást*, of the 18th February, says that the non-official members of the Bengal Council possess no real power or influence. The

official members settle amongst themselves beforehand in what form a law will pass, and its introduction into the Council is intended to be a mere matter of form. For not even the strongest arguments that may be urged against it by the non-official members are heeded by the official members. The debates that are taking place on the Calcutta Municipal Bill furnish a good illustration of this. In those debates, Dr. Guru Das Banerjee and Baboo Kali Nath Mitra, in spite of all the good things they are saying, are getting no hearing, and all amendments are falling through. The most objectionable provisions of the Bill, those provisions, that is, which are calculated to do immense mischief to the inhabitants of the town, have been adopted in the face of very strong opposition. Section 10 of the Bill, which fixes the number of votes according to the annual values of houses, is a most objectionable provision, but it is passed! Indeed, the manner in which the official members of the Council are conducting themselves in connection with this Municipal Bill is simply disgraceful. If the Government is at all anxious to give effect to the wishes of the people, it should listen to the reasonable arguments of the people's representatives. But if it is bent on proceeding on the course it has chalked out for itself in utter defiance of public opinion, it need not enact the farce of discussing the Bill in the Council.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
Feb. 18th, 1888.

98. The *Samvád Prabhakar*, of the 18th February, hopes that Sir Steuart Bayley will carefully consider the resolutions passed at the meeting of the rate-payers of Calcutta in the rooms of the British Indian Association, protesting against the manner in which the Calcutta Municipal Bill is being dealt with in the Bengal Council.

**NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,**
Feb. 20th, 1888.

99. The *Navavibhakar Sadhárani*, of the 20th February, says that the European community of Calcutta are mightily afraid of the numerical superiority of the Hindu Commissioners of the Municipality. Let those, however, who have eyes to see, look at the following figures :—

			Elected.	Nominated.	Total.
Hindu	Commissioners	...	27	6	33
Mahomedan	"	...	8	3	11
Christian and other	"	...	13	15	28

It thus appears that there are altogether 33 Hindu and 39 non-Hindu Commissioners.

DACCA GAZETTE,
Feb. 20th, 1888.

100. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 20th February, is glad to learn that the Maharajah of Vizianagram has been appointed a member of the Viceregal Council. The Maharajah is a very able man, and fully deserves the honour conferred on him.

101. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 22nd February, says that the native members of the Bengal Legislative Council are being

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Feb. 22nd, 1888.

The Calcutta Municipal Bill.

defeated on every question connected with the Municipal Bill owing to their numerical inferiority. The most remarkable feature of the debates on this Bill is that all amendments proposed by the lawyer members of the Council are being rejected. Dr. Guru Das Banerjee is a distinguished Vakil, Babu Kali Nath Mitra is an able and experienced Attorney, and Mr. Paul is the legal adviser of Government. And as all these men are being systematically outvoted, it seems that the Calcutta Municipal Bill will have little to do with law and legal principles. The proposed municipal law will only grant increased privileges to the European residents of the town. The Anglo-Indians will be able to return 10 members to the Municipal Board, the Government will nominate 25 members and the rate-payers will elect only 50 members. And as it is very likely that some among the elected and nominated Commissioners will be Anglo-Indians, it is clear that the new municipal law will give undue predominance to the Anglo-Indian element in the Calcutta Municipality. The whole country has protested against the course which the Government is pursuing in this respect. The privilege of voting has been conferred upon graduates in the mofussil municipalities, but it will be denied to graduates residing in Calcutta.

The old system, which entitled every man paying an annual tax of Rs. 25 to vote, was a good one, because it enabled a large number of people to vote at the elections; and the majority of the population of the town being Hindus, the number of Hindu Commissioners was largest, as justice and equity requires. But this was most unpalatable to the Mahomedans and the Anglo-Indians, and they have therefore conspired to diminish the influence of the Hindus in the municipality; but the Mahomedans will lose in consequence of this unholy alliance.

Section 10 of the Municipal Bill is open to the gravest objections. The occupier of a house, whose rent is not less than Rs. 30, will be entitled to one vote, and for each additional 30 rupees of rent to one additional vote. This principle of plurality of votes has been introduced only for the benefit of the Europeans who occupy large houses, and who will therefore be entitled to the largest number of votes.

The writer is, however, glad to find that Dr. Guru Das Banerjee's proposal to empower the Commissioners to make grants of money for primary education has been accepted. The Suburban Municipality spends Rs. 3,000 every year on that object.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

102. The *Darussaltanat*, of the 14th February, says that the Maharajah Holkar has hitherto enjoyed

DARUSSALTANAT,
Feb. 14th, 1888.

The Maharajah Holkar.

an unstained reputation, and there is reason to suspect that the *Pioneer's* insinuations regarding the present state of his mind are put forward as a set-off to His Highness's complaints about the discourtesy shown to him by British officials in England.

103. The *Sahachar*, of the 15th February, says that the Gaekwar of Baroda, while in Paris, had to pay Rs. 8,000 to a hotel-keeper over and above his proper liability, in consequence of a decree obtained against him in

SACHAR,
Feb. 15th, 1888.

The troubles of the Gaekwar of Baroda at Paris.

a suit brought by the latter. His Highness intends to appeal against the decree. Will not the French Government do him justice? Will not the British Government say or do anything in this matter? The Gaekwar is not a common fellow; he is a great friend of the British Government and an independent Chief.

SAMAYA,
Feb. 17th, 1888.

104. The *Samaya*, of the 17th February, referring to the claim recently advanced by Messrs. Palmer and Rumbold on the State of Hyderabad, says that the fact of this claim reappearing after its full liquidation 60 years ago and of His Highness the Nizam offering three lakhs for its satisfaction shows that it is not influence of a very healthy kind that is now being exercised in Hyderabad by Mr. Cordery and Abdul Huq. Had Mr. Cordery been a man of the type of Mr. Metcalfe, and had the Nizam been an independent Prince, as he should be, Messrs. Palmer and Rumbold would not have dared to show themselves in Hyderabad again. And the Nizam would not certainly have made the offer of three lakhs, he is alleged to have done, if he had been left in the possession of even a nominal independence.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

CHARU VARTA,
Feb. 6th & 13th, 1888.

105. A correspondent of the *Cháruvartá*, of the 6th and 13th February, says that the people of Ghoshgaon in Mymensingh are living in constant dread of tigers whose growls disturb their sleep at night.

SAHACHAR,
Feb. 15th, 1888.

106. The *Sahachar*, of the 5th February, hears that, at the instance of Mr. Cruikshank, the able and kind-hearted Secretary of the Bank of Bengal, the Directors of the Bank of Bengal have resolved to pay the income-tax of their employés from the Bank funds. The writer offers his best thanks to the Secretary and the Directors of the Bank.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
Feb. 16th, 1888.

107. The *Surabhi and Patáká*, of the 16th February, recommends the Mahomedan community to read Sir Steuart Bayley's speech at the Calcutta Madrassa. Sir Steuart Bayley's recent speech at the Madrassa College, Calcutta, with the greatest attention.

PRATIKAR,
Feb. 17th, 1888.

108. The *Pratikár*, of the 17th February, is sorry to hear that the Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad will send his son to England to compete for the Civil Service Examination. No one ever dreamt that the scions of the Nawab family of Murshidabad would be driven by poverty to enter Government service.

DARUSSALTANAT,
Feb. 18th, 1888.

109. The *Darussaltanat*, of the 18th February, says that tigers and other wild animals are doing considerable mischief at Sripore, in the Hooghly district.

SANJIVANI,
Feb. 18th, 1888.

110. The *Sanjivani*, of the 18th February, says that the news of Sir Lepel Griffin's intended departure from India has created a sensation amongst his flatterers who are endeavouring to get up an address in his favour. Already petty sardars and chiefs are flocking to Indore and shedding tears of sympathy for their departing friend. Considering the backward state of education in Central India, and the fear with which Europeans are regarded by the native chiefs, it may be safely predicted that it will not be difficult for Sir Lepel to get addresses full of insincere adulation.

Lord Dufferin's resignation.

111. The same paper has the following on Lord Dufferin's resignation :—

SANJIVANI.
Feb. 18th, 1888.

His Excellency Lord Dufferin, speaking of his own resignation the other day, said that his departure from this country was hastened only by family considerations. What can these family considerations be? He himself is in good health, and so is his wife, Lady Dufferin. His daughters went to England the other day, so that no question seems to exist in regard to their education.

Nothing again has happened to his friends and relations at home, requiring his presence there. According to the *Englishman* newspaper residence in the hot climate of India has affected the health of their Excellencies Lord and Lady Dufferin, and they therefore want to make an early departure from the country. But this cannot be, seeing that their Excellencies residing as they chiefly do in cold hill stations, have not really had to bear the heat of India. But supposing that their Excellencies are in an indifferent state of health, how is it that they remain in the country ten months more instead of leaving it at once? The plea of ill health brought forward by the *Englishman* may therefore be summarily dismissed.

There is, however, a rumour to the effect that differences have arisen between His Excellency and the Secretary of State for India, regarding Sikkim and the Simla Exodus. And this rumour if correct, would seem to simply account for His Excellency's untimely resignation.

112. A correspondent of the same paper thus speaks of the tea-planters of the Golaghat Sub-division :—

SANJIVANI.

Coolie oppression in the Golaghat Sub-division.

Some of these tea-planters are so shameless and barbarous that while out driving in a buggy or riding on an elephant they will in broad daylight, and in the presence of any number of men take coolie women on their knees and kiss them, some of them may be observed walking on the public road with coolie women in their arms. There are others, again who despite the time and the place, will spring upon coolie women like hungry bears and hug them in their arms.

The managers of all the tea gardens but two in the Golaghat Sub-division are guilty of serious crimes. One of these men, who is well known to the correspondent, has some 300 coolies under him. Of this number 175 are women, every one of whom has had to sacrifice her virtue in the flame of his insatiable lust. He makes no distinction of young and old, of places frequented and places unfrequented, and is ready to satisfy his lust at any time. He keeps two or three mistresses, and no coolie women coming across him can escape with her honour unsullied.

This man has in his garden two young married women aged about 15 or 16 each. The husband of one of them suspecting her to be in intrigue with the manager, beat her. At this stage, her relations interposed and asked the husband to prove the infidelity of his wife before beating her for a fancied misdemeanour. It should be observed here, that some of the coolie women are in the habit of selling their virtue to the planters who pay them something, say Rs. 5, every time they enjoy them. In many cases, these fees for illicit intercourse are entered in the Managers' books under the heading of "advance payments", and when the women complete their terms of contract, they are compelled to enter into fresh contracts on the strength of these entries! Now to the story in hand. The husband made enquiries, and obtained clear proofs of the unchastity of both the girls. He communicated the fact to the husband of the other girl. The relations of the first girl informed the manager of the garden of what

had happened. The manager had the two men called before him and ordered them to be whipped. While they were being whipped, the manager was heard to say, referring to the husband of the first girl "I gave him money in order to enable him to marry and he ought not to behave thus towards me, even though I may be guilty of an offence." The two men are now confined to bed suffering from the effects of the merciless whipping, and their wives are in the meantime, being enjoyed by the planter who does not allow the women to attend upon their husbands. Is there no remedy for such a state of things as this? The cries of the poor do not reach the ears of the British Government which has no eyes to see these sights of misery and oppression. Alas Providence! Have you too ceased to protect your poor children?

BANGARASI,
Feb. 18th, 1888.

113. Referring to the last speech from the throne on the occasion of the opening of Parliament, the *Bangabasi*, of the 18th February, remarks as follows:—

What the Queen says are simply such words as Her Ministers put into her mouth. Her last speech contains no reference to India; but it contains references to Her Majesty's other dominions; and the reason is not far to seek. The Parliament, after annulling the East India Company's *ijara*, has let its Indian zemindari in *putni* to the Civilians. The affairs of this zemindari are managed by a head Naib in India, and there is a Dewan who lives in England. The Viceroy is the head Naib, and the Provincial Governors, Lieutenant-Governors and Chief Commissioners are subordinate Naibs. The Civilians are the *gomashtas* and the soldiers are the *paiks* and *nagdis*. Whatever the *gomashtas* do must be submitted to because they are strong in number. The Parliament has nothing to do with the zemindari, and the Ministers have made over entire charge of the zemindari to the Dewan. The Dewan knows only the Naibs, and the Naibs are all for the *gomashtas*. Why, under circumstances such as these, should the speech put into the Queen's mouth by the Ministers contain any reference to India?

BANGARASI.

114. The same paper says that the duty on liquor yields a revenue of four crores of rupees to Government. It is therefore probable that 20 crores of rupees worth of wine is annually sold to the 20 crores of population of India. This is regarded by some as the highest triumph of civilisation. The average annual income of a native of India is less than Rs. 25, so he must be considered to be marvellously happy if he buys a rupee worth of liquor every year. Indeed, seeing the rate at which the people of India are taking to drinking, it may be safely declared that they will soon climb to the highest rung of the ladder of civilization. According to the Europeans, civilization and drunkenness bear a direct ratio to each other; and judged by this principle, India must be admitted to be marching heroically on the path of civilization and progress. There are now few villages in India where liquor cannot be procured. Even in villages, where even the *Mudi* has no shop for the sale of rice and *dāl* and where *hâts* are held only once a week, grogshops are maintained all the year round. European civilization is making the good people of India slaves of luxurious habits. For it has made them hopelessly fond of European clothing and European jewellery. Educated Indians think that eating is the occupation of beasts alone, that fools alone practise religion and virtue, that charity is nothing if not ostentatious, and that it is man's highest wisdom to enjoy after the European fashion the fullest measure of earthly pleasure.

Civilisation and drunkenness.

Dacca Gazette,
Feb. 20th, 1883.

115. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 20th February, says that Lady Dufferin's name will be gratefully remembered by the people of India for the noble endeavour she has made to provide femal medical aid for the women of this country, and that though Lord Dufferin has done no good to the people of India, still his name will be associated with that of his benevolent wife and the fund she has opened

Lady Dufferin.

ASSAM PAPERS.

The cost of the Assam Administration.

116. The *Silchar*, of the 13th February, says that, since its separation from Bengal in 1875, Assam has fared very ill. Its administration has lost in efficiency on account of its being so costly. It is now ruled by one Chief Commissioner, one Judicial Commissioner, one Judge, 13 Deputy Commissioners, 19 Assistant Commissioners and several Extra Assistant Commissioners, Munsifs and Sub-Deputy Collectors. The salaries and allowances given to these officers and these clerks absorb the best part of the revenue of the province.

SILCHAR,
Feb. 13th, 1883.

The inspection tours of the officers bring no gain to the province, but cost it heavily. The officers of Government pocket large allowances in the name of these tours, but they really spend the whole time they remain on tour in hunting and other amusements.

Government, which seems so anxious to curtail expenditure, should therefore, following the advice of Mr. Luttmann-Johnson, abolish the Chief Commissionership of Assam, include the provinces of Sylhet and Cachar in Bengal as before, and appoint a Judicial Commissioner in the Brahmaputra Valley. By these measures it will increase its yearly revenue by 3 lakhs of rupees. It is curious that the Finance Committee has said nothing on this subject.

The inclusion of Sylhet and Cachar in Bengal is desirable on more grounds than one. In the first place, the people of those provinces have always liked to be placed under the Bengal Government. In the second place, they have many things in common with the people of Bengal. In the third place, the separation of Assam from Bengal has proved detrimental to the interests of the former country.

If the object of Government in creating separate Provincial Governments be not to find bread for its own countrymen, it is bound to give its best attention to the question of re-annexing Sylhet and Cachar to Bengal.

117. The same paper says that, in view of the inconvenience which is experienced in distributing letters at night, the present system under which the Calcutta Mail reaches Silchar at 5 o'clock in the afternoon should be changed.

SILCHAR.

The delivery of the Calcutta Mail at Silchar.

118. The same paper, referring to the Moral Education Circular, says that, in the present disorganized condition of Hindu society, the moral tone of Hindu boys will not improve unless they are brought face to face and placed in contact with a large number of moral ideals of the type of Chaitanya, unless they get good teachers to imitate, unless their guardians be themselves men of good moral character, and unless the intellectual as well as the physical part of their training is well

SILCHAR.

The Moral Education Circular.

attended to. The present system of education, in which physical training is sadly neglected, is all but useless and requires to be changed.

SILCHAR.
Feb. 13th, 1888.

119. The same paper says that, considering his age, earnest devotion to work, experience and dutifulness, the charges brought against Baboo Dina Bandhu Bhattacharyya, third teacher of the Silchar zillah school, seem to be of a frivolous nature, and these charges should accordingly have been withdrawn. But as complaints have been preferred against the present staff of the school, it is desirable to change it.

PARIDARSHAK,
Feb. 13th, 1888.

120. The *Paridarshak*, of the 13th February, says that Sylhet is a poor district, where the land is divided into numerous small holdings, and where the population live, for the most part, on the produce of the soil. Formerly, it was customary in that district to apply for permission to pay up arrears of several estates by a single petition on an eight-anna stamp. But a novel practice has been introduced by the Deputy Commissioner of the district, according to which defaulters have to pay for each estate, as stamp duty, Rs. 1-8 before issue of notice and Rs. 2-8 after it. Be the arrears of a holding ever so small—so small, say, as 2 pice—an application for permission to pay it up will entail an expenditure of Rs. 3-12-6. Owners of large shares in a *mehal* are naturally anxious to pay up all revenues due: but men holding small fractions thereof take advantage of their position to evade payment of arrears of revenue. The holders of large shares cannot discover that the holders of small shares have not paid until the statement of arrears is prepared, when they have to spend a lot of money for nothing. If they succeed in ascertaining the fact before the issue of the notice, which very seldom happens, they may get over the difficulty by merely paying the stamp duty of Rs. 1-8-6. If not, they are obliged to pay down Rs. 3-13 as the penalty for the non-payment of arrears of revenue, amounting, it may be, to two pice only, and have, moreover, to undergo all the worry and pecuniary loss inseparable from continual attendance at the Collector's office.

In Sylhet it is not rare to see a proprietor who once owned an entire *mehal*, and who has gradually lost a considerable portion thereof for default in the payment of revenue, purposely withholding his own share of the revenue with the object of regaining the lost portions at sales for default on their account. This circumstance compels the new owners to pay from their own pockets the revenue which is payable by the old proprietor. It is true that this practice will be put down by the system of registration of names. But this system introduced for the purpose of putting down an unjust practice resorts, to by a few individuals, is putting the general public to great expense and inconvenience.

Looking at the distressed condition of the district for the last three or four years, the attempt to realise two *kists* at once, together with an unjust stamp duty and *talabána* (process fee), is tantamount to telling the people to leave the country.

Some thirty-three thousand *mehals* have now fallen into arrears in North Sylhet alone; so the defaulters in that quarter will have to pay more than one lakh and twenty-five thousand rupees in stamp duty alone, and this, it should be clear, will greatly add to their misery. The ryots of

North Sylhet are by no means in a position to pay so large a sum of money. Then, again, these ryots, in paying up their dues, have to avail themselves of the services of *márfaldars*, which costs them a great deal. The writer does not see the necessity of these *márfaldars*; they are a burden to the people, and they should be done away with by Government. Cases have come to the writer's notice in which these *márfaldars* have misappropriated money entrusted to them by the ryots.

Government can fairly claim only so much from the ryots as it costs it to realize arrears of revenue. The actual cost of realizing revenue from the thirty-three thousand defaulting mehals of Northern Sylhet cannot exceed Rs. 2,000. It will, therefore, be in the highest degree unjust to demand one lakh and twenty-five thousand rupees, where the actual cost will be about Rs. 2,000 only.

The present Chief Commissioner of Assam is a very intelligent man, and it is hoped that he will kindly inquire into this grievance of the poor ryots and show them a little mercy. He was not in Assam when the late distress took place in Sylhet; he should know, however, that it was of a nature to melt even the hard heart of Mr. Ward, and he should acquaint himself with the circumstances attending that sad occurrence.

121. The same paper says that, as prayed for by the people of Jaynta in Assam, the Deputy Commissioner has, with the approval of the Chief Commissioner, exempted all mehals paying a revenue of one rupee and less from the payment of the process fee and stamp duty. The stamp duty for other mehals has also been reduced from Rs. 1-8 to 8 annas, and the process fee from Rs. 2-4 to Rs. 1-2. For this act of kindness the Chief Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner deserve the best thanks of the public.

Remission of process fee and stamp duty at Jaynta in Assam.

PARIDARSHAK,
Feb. 13th, 1888.

122. The same paper repeats the statement made by it on a previous occasion, to the effect that Ishan Baboo has not done well in entrusting police cases to an inexperienced Assistant Commissioner like Mr. Mesurier. In a petty case that has come up before him, Mr. Mesurier has taken three days to hear the complainant alone, and it is probable he will take more time still. The writer believes that an experienced Magistrate would have disposed of the case in one day. The Court should know that it costs the Assamese a great deal of money to entertain the services of pleaders for days together.

Mr. Mesurier, Assistant Commissioner.

PARIDARSHAK.

123. A correspondent of the same paper says that Mr. Edward Ord, the *Chotá Sáheb* of a tea-garden near Sylhet, lately assaulted a tailor in his employ by name Samsher Khan. Mr. Ord pursued his tailor, and without any provocation from the latter gave him such a hard blow on the head that the man fell down insensible and his head bled profusely. Samsher Khan instituted criminal proceedings against Mr. Ord, and the case was tried by Mr. Greenwood. On the day which was fixed for the hearing of the case, Mr. Ord went into a billiard-room, and from that place addressed a note to Mr. Greenwood saying that, as it was the pay-day of the garden, he could not attend Court. Mr. Greenwood, however, compelled him to appear. The evidence conclusively proved Mr. Ord's guilt. The evidence of Mr. Ord's own witnesses went to convict him, and yet the Magistrate dismissed the case. What a wanton miscarriage of justice! There is another circumstance connected with this case which is worthy of notice. When asked by the Court from where he

Assault by a tea-planter in Sylhet.

PARIDARSHAK.

had written his letter to Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Ord replied on oath that he wrote it from his garden. But it transpired from the evidence of the coolie who brought that letter that Mr. Ord wrote it from the billiard-room. This discrepancy in the evidence for the defence did not, however, strike the just and keen-witted Magistrate.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,
Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 25th February 1888.

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